

SENATE JUDICIARY

Exhibit No. 10

Date 2-20-07

Bill No. SB 454

Testimony on Senate Bill 454

By Mike Kecskes Sr. of Helena

Good Morning, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

I am Mike Kecskes Sr. of Helena, resident of Montana for 34 years. I wish to speak as a private citizen on SB-454. I oppose this bill because, in my opinion, it is seriously flawed, unnecessary and unconstitutional.

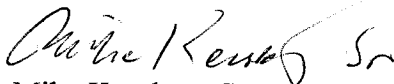
Senate Bill 454 would provide special protections to small classes of people and, in so doing, would jeopardize the constitutionally protected rights of others. It would certainly stifle religious expression and free speech in regards to the morality and consequences of homosexual acts.

SB-454 is also flawed in that, to quote the bill: to "harass, annoy, or offend ... another, , or cause reasonable apprehension of bodily injury in another.." based on the sexual orientation of the purported victim, the offender may be imprisoned for up to 3 years and fined up to \$5000, or both, is absurd in its harshness and unenforceable. It would merely serve to intimidate people who disagree with the so-called homosexual life-style and create a blizzard of frivolous lawsuits and jam up the courts even more than they already are.

We have many laws already that protect everyone, regardless of creed, color, gender or sexual orientation, against willful bodily injury or property damage by another.

This bill, if it became law, would violate the "Equal Protection" clause of the U. S. Constitution.

For these reasons, and more, I strongly urge this committee to NOT PASS Senate Bill 454. Thank you.



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